



TOWN OF KITTERY

200 Rogers Road, Kittery, ME 03904
Telephone: (207) 475-1329 Fax: (207) 439-6806

RESOLUTION
IN OPPOSITION TO THE INITIATED BILL LD 974
AN ACT TO DECREASE THE AUTOMOBILE EXCISE TAX AND PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

WHEREAS, the initiated bill LD 974, *An Act to Decrease the Automobile Excise Tax and Promote Energy Efficiency*, would cut over \$80 million of revenue each year to Maine's towns and cities that is used to plow, treat, construct, repair and maintain over 13,000 miles of local roads and over 800 local bridges; and

Whereas, LD 974 would cut approximately \$456,000.00 in revenue Kittery uses every year to repair and maintain 74.06 miles of local roads and two bridges; and

Whereas, the motor vehicle excise tax revenue is vitally necessary to adequately maintain this infrastructure for reasons of public safety and welfare and economic development; and


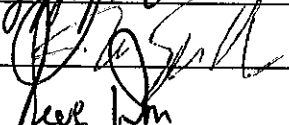
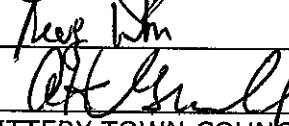
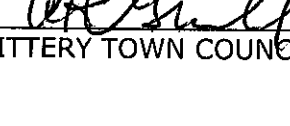
Whereas, the adoption of the excise tax initiative would likely lead to a significantly deteriorated transportation system in this community or, in the alternative, increases to the municipality's property tax rate; and

Whereas, the excise tax initiative inappropriately increases the regressivity of the motor vehicle excise tax by providing substantial benefits to the owners of newer and specialized motor vehicles while providing no tax benefits to the owners of motor vehicles that are older than five years of age, which represent the majority of registered motor vehicles; and

Whereas, the excise tax initiative is falsely presented as a "green" initiative while at the same time seriously impairing the capacity of the towns and cities in Maine to construct and maintain road systems that appropriately protect Maine's water quality;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kittery Town Council hereby expresses its grave concern about the initiated bill LD 974, *An Act to Decrease the Automobile Excise Tax and Promote Energy Efficiency*; and further agrees to provide information to the voters of Kittery regarding the potential negative impacts of this initiated legislation.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2009 in Kittery, Maine:





KITTERY TOWN COUNCIL

